Gyan Vani and Gyan Darshan Channels by ICAR & IGNOU

1055. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that ICAR and IGNOU are jointly launching Gyan Vani and Gyan Darshan channels, to educate the farmers to enable them to acquire knowledge in agricultural science, while remaining in the villages; and

(b) if so, whether dissemination of such knowledge of agricultural science would be given in a simple and understandable way and the programmes would be so structured that maximum number of semi-literate, or even illiterate, farmers are able to imbibe the same and are geared up for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Gyan Darshan television chhanel and Gyan Vani radio are run by IGNOU for open-distance learning. However, in order to give exposure to the Vice-Chancellors of Agricultural Universities a teleconference was organized by IGNOU with the focus on the capabilities and effectiveness of open and distance learning system in the area of agricultural education.

Grants by National Commission for Cattle to Madhya Pradesh

1056. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when was the National Commission for Cattle established;

(b) the grants released by the Commission to Goshalas in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(c) whether the grants were released through the State Government or direct to the Goshalas; and

(d) the amount released to Rajgadh district of Madhya Pradesh, during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The National Commission for Cattle was established on 2nd August, 2001.

(b) No grants have been released by the Commission to any Goshalas in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

NAIS for fruits in Andhra Pradesh

1057. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified certain areas in Andhra Pradesh for extending National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to fruits like mango, orange, banana, etc. in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether premium for these perennial crops has also been decided; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Yes Sir, one district (Chittoor) in Andhra Pradesh has been identified to cover mango crop under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) on experimental basis. It has been decided to charge actuarial rate of premium for insuring the mango crop in this experimental study.

Dues under NAIS in Gujarat

1058. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the insurance amount to be paid to farmers under the Crop Insurance Scheme has been outstanding in all the districts of Gujarat for the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of payments made as insurance claims during the last five years, year-wise; and

(d) by when all the outstanding dues are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No Sir. All the claims for Rabi 1999-2000 to Rabi 2000-01 season have already been settled. However, settlement of some claims in respect of cotton and paddy crops for Kharif 2001 season have been delayed in view of the investigations carried out to sort out the discrepancies noticed. The claims of Rabi 2001-02, amounting to Rs. 46.16 lakhs in 12 districts have been sanctioned but payment is pending due to non-receipt of State share.